

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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ALL NATO CAPITALS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NATO 04994

OTTAWA ALSO FOR AMBASSADOR BENNETT

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, NATO
SUBJECT: ALLIANCE STUDY OF EAST-WEST RELATIONS

REF: (A) STATE 131480, (B) USNATO 4621, (C) STATE 124528

1. AT ITS JUNE 8 MEETING, THE COUNCIL TASKED THE SPC TO BEGIN WORK ON THE ALLIANCE STUDY OF EAST-WEST RELATIONS. (COMMENT: WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE IS PLANS TO HOLD THE FIRST SPC MEETING ON THE SUBJECT ON JUNE 13. END COMMENT.)

2. FERRARRI (ITALIAN CHARGE) SUGGESTED THAT THE COUNCIL REQUEST THE ATLANTIC POLICY ADVISORY GROUP (APAG) TO TAKE A LEADING ROLE IN THE STUDY, BUT THERE WAS NO SUPPORT FOR THIS PROPOSAL. BACON (CANADIAN CHARGE) SAID THE SPC SHOULD DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE OUTLINE AND TIME-TABLE FOR THE STUDY AND DECIDE HOW CONTRIBUTIONS WOULD BE MADE BY CAPITALS. SEVERAL OTHER REPS SUPPORTED IN GENERAL TERMS US SUGGESTIONS FOR THE STUDY AS OUTLINED EARLIER AT
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PERMREPS LUNCH. A FEW WERE WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS BUT FORESAW NO OBJECTIONS TO THE SPC'S MOVING AHEAD. US CHARGE ALSO COMMENTED IN GENERAL TERMS NOTING THE NEED FOR THE SPC TO BEGIN ITS WORK PROMPTLY.

3. IN SUMMING UP, ACTING SYG PANSA SAID THAT IN ORDER TO ENABLE THE COUNCIL TO MAKE A FRESH STUDY ASSESSING LONG-

TERM TRENDS IN THE SOVIET UNION, IN EASTERN EUROPE AND IN EAST-WEST RELATIONS, AND ANALYZING THE IMPLICATIONS OF THESE TRENDS FOR THE ALLIANCE, THE SPC IS TASKED TO PREPARE A MORE DETAILED OUTLINE FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COUNCIL AND TO DRAFT A REPORT, ASSISTED BY THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE AS NECESSARY. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE SPC MEET AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO DISCUSS THE OUTLINE AND A TIMETABLE OF WORK, AND TO SUBMIT THESE TO THE COUNCIL, WHICH WILL BE KEPT REGULARLY INFORMED AND WILL CLOSELY MONITOR THE PROGRESS OF WORK.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: IN ADDITION TO THE WELCOME GENERAL GUIDANCE PROVIDED REFS A AND C, IT WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL IF WE COULD HAVE BY JUNE 13 GUIDANCE ON A SUGGESTED OUTLINE THAT WE COULD PROVIDE TO THE SPC. END ACTION REQUEST

5. COMMENT: CONCERNING WORKLOAD DISTRIBUTION, WE CAN STEER ASSIGNMENTS IN THE DIRECTION OF ALLIES THAT MIGHT HAVE SPECIAL EXPERTISE IN A GIVEN AREA (PER PARA 3B, REF A). AT THE SAME TIME, WE HAVE DOUBTS ABOUT THE UTILITY OF ATTEMPTING TO DEVELOP A LIST OF KNOWN ALLIED REGIONAL OR FUNCTIONAL COMPETENCE PRIOR TO INITIAL GENERAL SPC CONSULTATIONS ON ELEMENTS OF THE OUTLINE TO WHICH ALLIES THEMSELVES MAY OFFER TO CONTRIBUTE. THE LOGICAL STEPS, AS WE SEE THEM, WOULD BE TO WORK OUT AN OUTLINE IN THE SPC, ELICIT PRELIMINARY VIEWS FROM ALLIES ON AREAS TO WHICH THEY WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE, AND THEN ARRANGE ASSIGNMENTS AS REQUIRED. AT THIS STAGE, WE WILL BE IN A BETTER POSITION TO SUGGEST HOW

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CONTRIBUTIONS MIGHT BE PULLED TOGETHER AND HOW REDRAFTING TASKS MIGHT BE MANAGED. END COMMENT. STREATOR

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